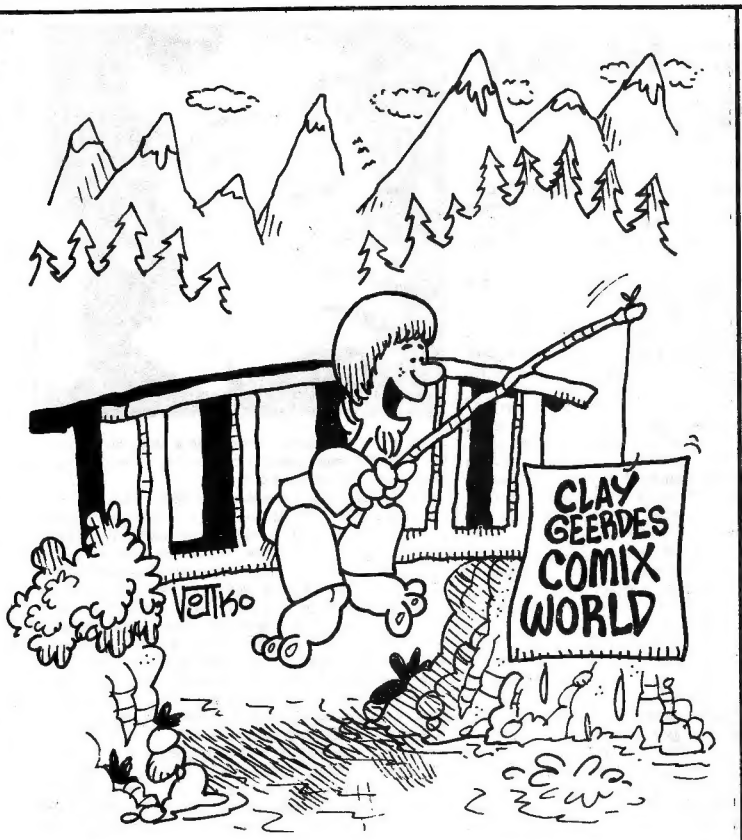

COMIX WORLD 96. May 15, 1978. Copyright Clay Geerdes, Box 7081, Berkeley, Ca 94707. Subs: $5 for 24. Back issues 50-90 for $5. Logo by Bob Vojtko. Send an SASE for my photo and moving sale lists.* If you're around the Bay Area, get in on my next costume contest. Comix World and Ashkenaz are putting on the Belly Laff Show, June 16, 1978, at Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo, Berkeley (near Gilman). We've got tappers, comedians, and great rockin' music by the Polar Bear. Info, call 525-5054. If you need rehearsal space, Ashkenaz has 2 dance studios and a sound room. Rental rates from the above number. * Sue Varty and friends have come out with Heroine, England's answer to Wimmen's Comix, and along with it comes Paper Doll Heroine, a mini-comic, very dada (or perhaps mama?). The material reacts more to Marvel Comics than to anything in the ugs, but Trina's four pages, Tree, links it to the American scene. I'll vouch for Ar-Zak, the company, but remember, if you order something surface mail from England, it takes about ten weeks to get here. You'll want to order Street 5 in the same batch if you're collecting the new British ugs. Readers in England will want to stop by and see the Hunt Emerson show at the Holt St. Gallery, May 23-June 13, 1-8 p.m.* While the guys at National Lampoon keep on publishing reprints of French material from Metal Hurlant, one wonders why they don't publish a collection of Shary Flenniken's Trots and Bonnie? Some of you people who think Shary ought to have her own book should write to the Lampoon and let them know.* You t-v junkies will have a good time with the TV GUIDE QUIZ BOOK just out from Bantam. Woody Allen's first t-v special? That would be September 21, 1969. How can you live without knowing things like that? * If you managed to miss Richard Corben's Neverwhere, which started life as an animated movie, you can read it now in Ballantine paperback form. Latest issue of Gasm reprints Corben's tale from Fever Dreams.* In San Francisco, the scene is now at Doug Wendt's Larkin Theater. Doug used to manage the midnight movies at Presidio and one of his latest coups was a Punk Film-in-festation which featured stuff like The Blank Generation, Suicide Commandos' Burn it Down, and lots of footage on Patty Smith and the Ramones et al. 816 Larkin. 7 nights for $10. Check it out.* Borin Van Loon sent me a copy of his URBAN PARANOIA. Nice little comic about 2 x 8". $2 from Suburban Books, 204 Peckham Rye, London SE22, Eng. I think you collectors will want one of these.* C. G.

Donald Duck can't be downed

HELSINKI (UPI) — Donald Duck is alive and well in Finland and, all previous reports to the contrary, the Finns love him.

Donald became a national issue last month when the Helsinki Youth Board voted to stop its 18 subscriptions to the Donald Duck weekly comic magazine.

The board said it thought Helsinki's youth should be reading other material and, besides Donald was walking around naked and appeared to be living in sin with Daisy.

That decision produced an outpouring of letters to the nation's press — parents pointing out that it wasn't just children who liked to read about Donald.

Vince Jackson is an independent Black dude who does his own and publishes his own, so far two issues of a funny book he calls Whole wheat. Resisting pressure from his own community, he continues to draw life as he sees it in progress on the streets around him. No propaganda here, just good stories. Highly recommended. $2 pp from him at 59 Quitman St., Newark, N. J. 07103. Inquire about #1. * What really goes on in the U. S. Congress? Lots, and ex-doorkeeper William "Fishbait" Miller tells it all to Frances Spatz Leighton in a book every cartoonist will have to have as a sourcebook. Call this the funny side of Jack Anderson's Case Against Congress, an appropriate book to read before you check out the jive-talk in Richard Nixon's Memoirs. It's called Fishbait after its deep South author. * CIA fans will want to read Craig Thomas's FIREFOX, then go on to Aaron Latham's Orchids For Mother. Like Haldeman's The Company, these novels sneak in lots of stuff the CIA managed to censor out of Marchetti's nonfiction work.* RIP OFF PRESS will boycott this year's BAY CON. V-P Don Baumgart send this letter to BAY CON 4: "Because of the prevailing unfriendly attitude toward underground comix and artists displayed by the organizers of BAY CON 3 at the Jack Tar Hotel last year, Rip Off Press, Inc. will not be participating in Bay Con 4." Rip Off and most other ug people plan to be in SD.

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WILD ANIMALS (edited by Scott Shaw)
THE FORTY-YEAR-OLD HIPPIE (Richards)
WEIRD TRIPS 2 (cover by Bil Stout)
RIP OFF COMIX 4 (Shelton et al)
MONDO SNARFO (Joel Beck & Others)
SLOW DEATH 9 (Atomic Energy issue)
ZAP 9 (Robert Williams & ZAP gang)
CHERRY POPTART (Larry Welz, Todd)
DR. ATOMIC 5 (Larry Todd)
THE FIRST KINGDOM 8 (Jack Katz)
MAGIC CARPET 2 (Jim Pinkoski)
AREBA KOALA 2 (John Wozniak)
RIPPED with the Fabulous Furry Freak Brothers (64pp, color, High Times)

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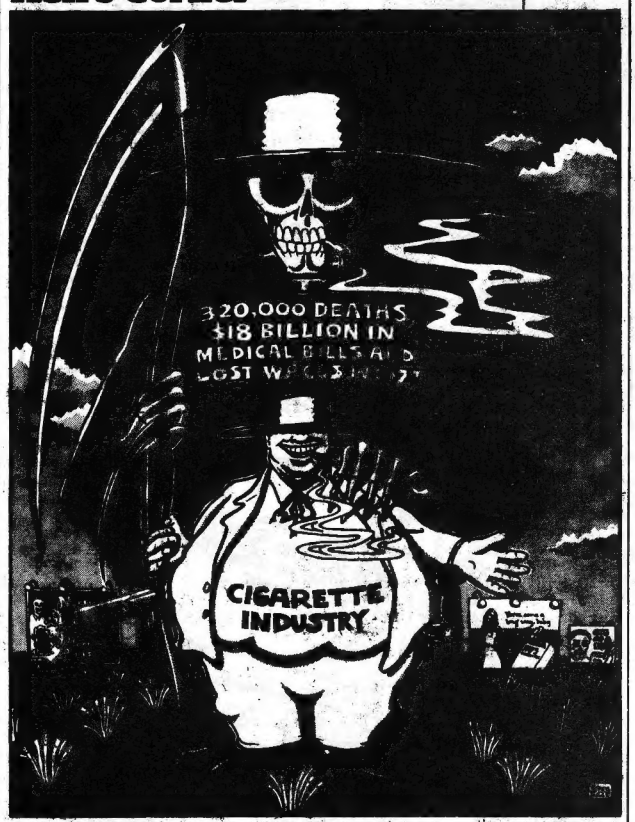

"They wouldn't dare cut tobacco subsidies or keep me from advertising! I'm a $12 billion industry! I'm much too big!"

Doing for this generation what Ron Cobb did for the last is Gary Kell. The work of this fine cartoonist appears in CONSUMER ACTION. I've included their address for those of you who have retained your social consciousness.* If you plan to attend San Diego Con better get your room pronto, because they always sell out early. I recommend El Cortez Motel. The rates are $18-24 for singles. 7th and Ash Streets, San Diego.* From Finland, Pekka Gronow writes it wasn't Colwell's work that roused the censor, but Crumb's family piece from Snatch. Guess the Reprint mag, HUUL! is now o.p.* MINDROT 10 is $1.25 from David Mruz, 3112 Holmes Av. South, Minneapolis, MN 55408. All about Walter Lantz. A fine issue.

-C. G. 5-78

Emmett Grogan 1942-1978

By Steve Ellman

The original Digger is dead at 36. On April Fool's Day, Emmett Grogan, the Kilroy of the '60s, suffered a massive heart attack on a New York subway. It was a premature conclusion to an American odyssey in pursuit of a vision called "free."

Grogan first surfaced in San Francisco in 1967, when hordes of migratory youth descended on Haight-Ashbury for the Summer of Love. He was at the very core of that social organism which became the Diggers. As the streets overflowed with homeless teenage gypsies, the Diggers did their best to solicit and distribute aid. "Free" was the name of the game—free food, free clothes, free lodging, free music.

"Free" went further than this, though, for Emmett was, among other things, a man of the theatre. The Diggers seized the opportunity to dramatize their sociopolitical and philosophical concerns. You could come to the park and down your meal of macrobiotic stew and brown rice, but first you had to pass through the "Free Frame of Reference," a six-foot-high construction of yellow two-by-fours. There was also a two-inch-square version to be worn about the neck: "an invitation," according to Peter Coyote, then a member of the San Francisco Mime Troupe and a friend of Grogan's, "to look at the world from the perspective of free—Would you do your job for free? Would you keep this identity if it didn't gain you money or status?"

The Diggers were a magnet for the media which swarmed around the hippies, and Emmett, who people described as "charismatic" and "inspirational," became a candidate for media enshrinement. Rather than risk the divisive and demoralizing effects of such canonization, Emmett simply followed his philosophy and gave his name away. Anybody could be Emmett Grogan. Does the Luce organization want to know who speaks for the hippies? Step right up, Mr. Reporter, and meet our leader, Emmett Grogan. Want to pin the blame for some new social outrage? Stick it on Emmett Grogan. So many actions were claimed by so many people in

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SOPHIE BAKER

his name that widespread doubt arose as to his actual existence. With a single gesture, Emmett had achieved simultaneous ubiquity and anonymity.

The summer faded and with it the Diggers. Emmett went on to other scenes. He returned to New York and was instrumental, at various times, in cooling gang conflicts in the East Village. He lived in L.A. for a while and mixed with the movie colony. He wrote *Ringolevio*, an autobiographical novel. He spent time in Woodstock with the Band and, recently, collaborated on songs with Rick Danko. Emmett was too strong a personality not to have made enemies. Some resented their portrayals in *Ringolevio*. Others accused him of selling out to his Hollywood connections. If Emmett drifted for a time, by the mid-'70s the problems of nuclear power and proliferation had become his concerns. He had recently completed a thriller, *Final Score*, dealing with these matters.

As word of his death spread, Emmett's family received condolences from all over the world, many from street people, common people, who knew Emmett only briefly, yet were deeply affected by him. One call was from an English editor. As Grogan's mother tells it, "The editor said Emmett should have lived to be 110, and I said, 'I think he did.'" ■

FOR SALE

COLLECTION OF ORIGINAL COMIC BOOK ART: contains items by Crumb, Deitch, Schenkman, Spiegleman, Geiser, etc. Most pieces are published and signed. Approximately 60 different pieces.

COLLECTION OF UG COMIX: includes 415 in and out of print comix, and some newspapers, fanzines, catalogues, and a complete run of High Times, all 1st eds.

GOLDEN AGE BOOKS: contains old EC and 40's good girl art stuff. Also a pretty rare Barks disney book, about 50 items.

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